GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4937
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008
COCONUT CULTIVATION
Manoj Dr. K.S.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has started any programme for the conservation of coconut cultivation in the coastal areas of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to extend this programme to all the coastal areas of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir.To conserve and rejuvenate the coconut cultivation in the traditional coconut areas of Kerala,the Coconut Development Board (CDB) under the aegis of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has sanctioned a pilot project on `Bio-hedging village programme` to coastal Mararikulam North Panchayath of Alleppey District.The objective of the project is to demonstrate the management practices to be adopted for the conservation of coconut cultivation in coastal areas by establishing bio-shelter belt along the coast to prevent soil erosion, besides,rejuvenating and developing coconut garden in a compact block of 25 hectares.The pilot project also envisages the renovation of existing ponds and drainage canals for rain water harvesting.

In addition,the CDB has proposed to implement a new scheme for `Replanting and rejuvenation of coconut gardens in traditional coconut growing States` with a view to conserve coconut cultivation in the coastal areas.The States/Union Territories proposed to be covered under this scheme are Kerala,Tamilnadu,Karnataka,Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Orissa and U.T.of Andaman & Nicobar Islands,Pondicherry and Lakshadweep.